(c) Government of India have already initiated action for conduct of a census of handlooms at national level which will cover the socio-economic & operational aspects of the handloom industry in all the States, including Andhra Pradesh.

Loss of mandays

380. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of mandays lost during the last six months ending on 31st March, 1987, due to strikes, bands and other agitations in the country; and

(b) what steps have been taken by Government to meet the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) According to the latest available information, the number of mandays lost during the six months period ending 31st January, 1987 due to strike and lock-outs is estimated at 6.98 million. Information on loss of mandays due to bands and agitations is not maintained.

(b) Government are keeping a constant watch on the industrial relations situation in the country. The Industrial Relations Machinery both at the Centre and in the States continue to make efforts to reduce work-stoppages through preventive mediation, conciliation and arbitration.

Pollution of River Gomati

381. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any inquiry has been made into the incident of serious pollution of the river Gomati in Lucknow which took place in December, 1986;

(b) if so, what is the outcome of the inquiry and the particulars of the industry/factory which was held responsible therefor; and

(c) what action has been taken to prosecute the management of the industry/factory and what steps have been taken to prevent such incidents of pollution of river waters in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the investigation conducted by the State Pollution Control Board, the fish kill in the river was due to excessive discharge of untreated effluents from M/s Oudh Sugar Mills, Sitapur and M/s Mohan Meakins Breweries, Lucknow.

(c) The State Pollution Control Board filed a writ petition against the management of the concerned industries and the Court has directed the industries to provide for adequate treatment facilities by the end of 1987. The industries have also been directed to make an interim arrangement for holding the effluents in lagoons so that these are not directly discharged into the river.

The steps taken to prevent such incidents of river water pollution include the following:

(1) Effluent standards have been prescribed and the industries have been directed to comply with the standards on a time bound basis; and

(2) Prosecutions have been launched against the defaulting units.

Charges against Officers of Kanpur Mills of NTC

382. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of TEX-

TILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received reports regarding sale of canvas and other matrials from Kanpur Mills of NTC in an irregular way and/or beyond the normal selling norms;

(b) whether the matter was referred to an investigating agency for fixing the charges against officers and members of Board of Directors;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) how many officers have been so charged for their involvement in the case; and

(e) what further action is being contemplated?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (e) The matter regarding sale of canvas was investigated by the CBI who have registered a case against 8 officers including Director (Commercial) of NTC (UP).

Rail corridor facility through Bangladesh territory to link West Bengal with the North Eastern Region

383. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI K. GOPALAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has renewed its proposal to have a rail corridor facility through Bangladesh territory to link West Bengal with the North Eastern Region; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Bangladesh Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The subject is still being considered.

Karakoram Highway

384. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI T. R. BALU:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chinese are making many improvements in Karakoram Highway; and

(b) what steps Government have taken in view of India's security environment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) The Chinese News Agency, Xinhua, reported on the 12-4-87 that the 450 km section of the Karakoram Highway between the Khunjerab Pass and Kashgar was being reconstructed by China to improve traffic conditions and facilitate the exchange of tourists. According to this report, the construction work started last year and would be completed by the end of 1988.

(b) Government takes all appropriate steps for ensuring India's security.

हिन्दी कार्यक्रम का कार्यान्वयन

385. **श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव** : क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मंत्रालय के अधीन ऐसे कौन-कौन से उपक्रम हैं जिनसे हिन्दी के प्रयोग के संबंध में अद्यतन तिमाही प्रतिवेदन प्राप्त हो गये हैं तथा कौन कौन से उपक्रमों से प्रतिवेदन प्राप्त नहीं हुये हैं ;

(ख) कौन-कौन से उपक्रमों ने वार्षिक कार्यक्रमों को पूर्णतया पूरा कर दिया है ; और कौन-कौन से उपक्रमों ने उसे अधूरा पूरा किया है तथा कौन-कौन से उपक्रम